

Applicants : Joseph S. Stam et al.  
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### **REMARKS**

In the present Reply, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-5, without prejudice, and have added new claims 21-25. New claim 21 corresponds to original claim 6 of parent Application No. 09/970,728 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,681,163). That original claim 6 was cancelled from the '728 parent application. Claims 6-25 are now pending.

In the present Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-5 of the '163 patent. This was a statutory-type double patenting rejection. By cancelling claims 1-5, this rejection is now moot.

In the present Office Action, the Examiner also rejected claims 6-20 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-11 of the '163 patent. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Nevertheless, in order to expedite the prosecution of this application, Applicants have included herewith a Terminal Disclaimer under 37 C.F.R. § 1.321, Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b), establishing the right of the Assignee to take action, and a check in the amount of \$130 for the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d).

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in immediate condition for allowance. Applicants also respectfully submit that this Reply is fully responsive to the above-referenced Office Action and does not introduce any new matter.

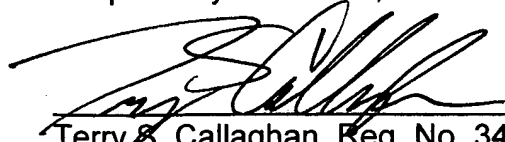
### **CONCLUSION**

If the Examiner has any questions or comments with respect to this Reply, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 616/949-9610.

Respectfully submitted,

9-8-2005

Date



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